NEW YORK HERALD

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT, PROPRIETOR.

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING

BOWERT THEATRE, Bowery .- ON HAND-A DAY PIPTH AVENUE THEATRE, Twenty-fourth street.-GLOBE THEATRE, 728 Broadway. - VARIETY ENTER-

BOOTH'S THEATER, 25d st., between 5th and 6th avs. WOOD'S MUSEUM Broadway, corner 30th st. -- Perform

NIBLO'S GARDEN, Broadway .- THE SPECTACLE OF WALLACE'S THEATRE, Broadway and 13th stre

LINA EDWIN'S THEATER, 780 Broadway.-Lingard GRAND OPERA HOUSE, corner of 8th av. and 23d st.

OLYMPIC THEATRE, Broadway. - THE RICHELIEU OF NEW YORK STADT THEATRE, 46 Bowery .- LA STRINWAY HALL, Fourteenth street. - GRAND NILSBON MRS. P. B. CONWAY'S PARK THEATRE, Brooklyn. -

SAN FRANCISCO MINSTREL HALL, 886 Broadway .- NEGRO MINSTRELS, PARIES, RUELFROURS, &C. TONY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE, 201 Bowery .- VA

THEATRE COMIQUE, 514 Broadway. -- Comic Vocal. BRYANT'S NEW OPERA HOUSE, 234 st., between 6th and 7th ars.—NEGRO MINSTERLSY, &c. HOOLEY'S OPERA HOUSE, Brooklyn.—Hooley's AND

NEW YORK CIRCUS, Fourteenth street.—SCENES IN THE RING, ACROBATS, &C. ASSOCIATION HALL, 23d street and 4th ave.-Miss DR. KAHN'S ANATOMICAL MUSEUM, 745 Broadway Science and ART.

TRIPLE SHEET

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THE MEMPHIS Appeal publishes Linton Stephens' recent inflammatory speech on reconstruction and says it sounds like a "fire bell by night." An incendiary fire?

CUBAN AFFAIRS.—By special telegram from the HERALD's correspondent at Havana we learn that Cespedes and Agramonte have issued proclamations signing themselves President and General-in-Chief of the Cuban forces. This bombast is ridiculous in the face of what the rebellion now is.

DECLINE IN THE PRICE OF BRASS .- After the publication of Senator Tweed's letter, which appears in our columns to-day, declining the proffered honor of his fellow citizens, who proposed to erect a statue of his portly figure in a public highway, we may expect to see the price of brass and copper decline at least twenty per cent in the market.

THE PROBLEM OF WOMAN SUFFRAGE has been solved. At Clarendon, Iowa, it was decided by the Board of Registers that women were entitled to vote, and all of a requisite age were placed upon the lists. But not one voted, and most of them had their names erased. Was this pure contrariness? and are these women to be permitted thus to shirk their political duties?

THE ST. DOMINGO COMMISSION.-From Kingston, Jamaica, March 11, we are informed that the United States steamers Tennessee and Nantasket had arrived at that port with the members of the St. Domingo Commission on board, and that the Tennessee in four days would start for New York via Key West. The Commissioners respectively were engaged in making up their reports, and it seems to be understood that they will make a strong case in favor of annexation. We presume that the Commission will return in the Tennessee, and that in eight or ten days we may look for her arrival. The two houses of Congress, meantime, seem to be anxious to get away from Washington; but before they leave they had better have some understanding with the President on this St. Domingo Commission and the Joint High Commission, or before the summer is out he may find it expedient to call them together again.

THE PROPOSED FRENCH TAX ON RAW COTTON.-We have the report from Paris that the French government intends to levy a duty upon important raw materials, and especially the raw material of textile fabrics, and that it is expected that the tax on cotton alone will yield a yearly revenue of from sixty to eighty millions of francs. Foreign manufactured articles are to be taxed proportionately. No doubt poor France, under the heavy financial burdens of this war, will be compelled to tax to the utmost everything that will yield any revenue; but the proposed tax upon raw cotton will be a great mistake. It will certainly operate not only to the advantage of the English cotton factories, in cheapening their goods as compared with the increased prices of the French goods of the same qualities, but will operate to drive many of the French manufacturers over to England or the United States. So far as we are concerned, we say let them come and welcome. There is a great field here for those French manufactories of fine cotton goods; but the true policy of the French government is not that taxation policy which will drive its manufacturing interests and urged by our republican Secretary of the out of France.

Mr. Boutwell and His System of Political Economy.

When Napoleon was at St. Helena he used to say that the greatest blunder he ever committed was to make one who was no statesman his financial minister. This was the great geometer and astronomer, Laplace; but although no one admired his genius as a scientific man more than the Emperor, he allowed him to retain his portfolio only just six weeks. We will spare Mr. Boutwell the ridicule of comparing his claims to distinction to those of the author of the "Mechanique Celeste" and so many other noble works. There is one point, however, in which it must be admitted our Secretary of the Treasury resembles the astronomer; for one of the chief reasons of Napoleon for discarding the latter was that, as a minister, "he never seized any question under its veritable point of view;" another was that "he carried the spirit of the infinitely little into all his administrative plans."

No two expressions could describe Mr. Boutwell more faithfully, so far as they go. But in order that fall justice should be done to all parties, perhaps we should remind our readers that our Secretary of the Treasury has also produced some "works." He is the author of "Manual of United States Tax System." and "Taxpayer's Manual." Since one of these was printed, if not published, in 1863, and the other in 1865, it may be that the President had a right to infer from them that the author was a political economist. It is true that in their grammar, as well as in their logic, both are very much like those "compositions" read at our country colleges during the warm weather, as evidence that the education of their authors, or supposed authors, is "finished."

There is one thing, however, which might easily enough have been inferred from the "manuals" alluded to-namely, that the author was a warm admirer of taxation, especially in its heavier forms, and while he was more or less exempt himself from its operation, and that he is still of the same way of thinking, is but too well known to our taxpavers of all classes and parties. The tenacity with which he clings to the one idea of tax, tax, would be amusing were it not that its ruinous influence is becoming more and more apparent from day to day, even to the most thoughtless. As it is Mr. Boutwell's financial system is an object of derision, from its oppressiveness, in every country in Europe; it possesses, as many of our readers are aware, the unenviable distinction of eliciting the jibes and jeers even of the organs of those governments which do not pretend to recognize the principle of representation as having anything to do with taxation.

We need hardly say at this time that we had never much faith in the qualifications of Mr. Boutwell for the position he occupies; but we hoped that he would either improve or be removed before long. Actuated by this feeling, we gave him as much encouragement as possible; but it is well known that to encourage little minds is to render them arrogant and overbearing as well as vain, and Mr. Boutwell has proved no exception to the rule. Like other ambitious politicians whom we have sometimes decorated with the lion's skin-partly in order to stimulate them to do good in their sphere and partly in order to afford our readers a little sport-he has made more progress in silliness than in wisdom. But as those who expect little cannot be much disappointed, so all we regret in the present case is that the worst fears we entertained for the country when Mr. Boutwell got charge of the Treasury Department have been but too

Nor need we make a secret any longer of the causes of those unfavorable misgivings. When we heard of his appointment we could not help remembering that we never knew a successful financial minister who was not a statesman; we had not forgotten that Pitt and Fox. Sir Robert Peel and Lord Castlereagh, Mr. Disraeli and Mr. Gladstone had each in turn charge of the British exchequer, either directly or indirectly; or that it was their broad and enlightened views in relation to the public finances that established their reputation as statesmen. At the same time we bore in mind Sully and Richelieu, Mazarin and Talleyrand. True, we took into account that in this country the corresponding office was regarded in a somewhat different light, as one that required only second or third rate abilities; although Chase and some others had in general performed their duties so ably as to be justly entitled to be ranked as statesmen. Then, when we came to compare Mr. Boutwell with any of thesewith Englishman, Frenchman or Americanhow immensely wide was the gulf!

And now that we have had a trial of him for years, how much alteration have we had reason to make in our original estimate? Of all the statesmen with whose ideas on political economy we are acquainted, there is but one whose "policy" resembles Mr. Boutwell's, and we presume we need hardly inform the more intelligent class of our readers that that one is Nicholas Machiaveli, We do not, indeed, mean to compare the brain of our Secretary of Treasury to that of the Secretary of the Florentine republic, for we feel that we can be patriotic enough without traducing the illustrious dead. But Machiaveli has written in his poverty and adversity a well known work, entitled "The Prince." In this work he discusses political economy, as well as certain other subjects; and one of the precepts which he takes most pains to impress on his royal pupil is this:-Under one pretext or other be sure that you squeeze as much money as possible out of your subjects; but you must always contrive to make them believe that it is for their own good-at least, for the glory of the State-you do so; otherwise there is danger that they will revolt against you. Machiaveli proceeds to explain that in order to obviate a catastrophe of this kind it is necessary that the prince should choose a man of decided talent for the office of financial minister. It is very evident, from the context, that a minister of the calibre of Mr. Boutwell would not do even for the Turks, who were then regarded as the people most easily gulled and swindled out of their money; yet, although the very course suggested to the prince under certain conditions and restrictions is openly and persistently recommended

Treasury, not only do our people submit to it

quietly year after year, but a large proportion of them, if not the majority, are led to believe that, far from oppressing them, as it really does, it is just the thing to make them prosperous, rich and happy.

As for the great writers on political economy, there is not one of them whose precepts are not violated by Mr. Boutwell. Neither Duesnar nor Rosse nor Ganilk nor Leblanc nor Adam Smith gives the least encouragement, when intelligently interrogated. to a system the obvious tendency of which is to render money scarce and to paralyze all kinds of productive industry. None have maintained any such absurd and odious principle as that a large debt accumulated during a great war carried on for the preservation of the country, for the purpose of preventing its dismemberment, should be wrung as soon as possible from those whose valor and patriotism had saved it; nor bas any statesman worthy of the name ever pretended that the reduction of the national debt by means of oppressive taxation, however rapidly it may be effected, is any evidence of national prosperity, but the reverse. None having any approximate idea of the immense wealth and resources of England will deny that she could pay her debt, enormous as it is, in a few years, if she deemed its payment essential to her prosperity; but no such opinion is entertained either by her statesmen or her political economists. Accordingly, quite a considerable proportion, even of the debt accumulated during the wars of the first Napoleon, is still unpaid. As to the debt incurred by the Crimean war, it will not be paid for at least two generations. The Chancellor of the Exchequer who would urge the contrary course. or maintain that the people of the present day should be burdened with all sorts of odious taxes, in order that those of a generation or a century hence might be able to rejoice at the wisdom and foresight of their ancestors,

could not retain office for one month. Now let us compare for a moment the two systems, taking for a basis those principles in the soundness of which the political economists of all nations concur. One of the most indisputable of those principles is that the annual gain of a country is "the sum applicable to the extension of commerce, the reserva tion of a greater quantity of foreign articles, the increase of shipping, &c." In maintaining this proposition the author of the "Wealth of Nations" is in fall accord with the great political economists of the Continent. Dr. Smith also says, with equal force and truth, "As it is the power of exchanging that gives occasion to the division of labor, so the extent of this division must always be limited by the extent of that power or the extent of the market." Do any of our readers need to be told what is the extent of our power in this respect, at the present moment, compared with that of England? Has our commerce been extended or our shipping increased by the boasted exploits of Mr. Boutwell in reducing the national debt, in strict accordance with the odious precept of Machiaveli?

Even by the manner in which Mr. Boutwell manages the government loans he exhibits that "infinitesimal littleness" complained of by Napoleon, and also proves his utter inability to seize any question under its veritable point of view." Nor does the new loan form an exception; for, instead of entrusting the subscriptions to the great leading banking houses at home and abroad. he makes government agents of all sorts of petty brokers, as if he wished to disgust the former, who, it is well known, have no more wish to be placed in the same rank with the latter, even in an "Important Circular," than the general has to be placed in the same rank with the corporal. Perhaps, however, we should not blame Mr. Boutwell for this, but rather give him credit for a "fellow feeling." Be this as it may, we should be sorry for the dangerous monomania under which he has so long labored, and which seems to grow worse from day to day, if only for the sake of Massachusetts; for instead of representing the intelligence, refinement and talent of that ancient and respectable Commonwealth, what he really represents is its petty thrift, its fussy smartness, its little cunning, its narrow prejudices-in a word, its "Yankee notions."

The European Conference Dissolved-The Trenty of Paris Reaffirmed in London.

The European Conference, which assembled n London in the month of January for the purpose of considering the propriety of revising or amending the Treaty of Paris of 1856 in its clauses which regulated, or restricted, the navigation of the Black Sea, has closed its labors. The representation of the Powers which signed the original treaty was completed before the close of the present proceedings, the "vacant chair" France at the "green table" in the council room in Downing street having been filled by the Duc de Broglie, acting in the name of the French republic. Earl Granville, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs of England, announced to the House of Lords last night. as will be seen by our cable telegram, the fact that the members of the Conference had terminated their labors. The noble Lord also outlined a new treaty protocol, which has been perfected and signed at the British Foreign Office. The restrictions which were placed by the Treaty of Paris on the admission of foreign war vessels into the Dardanelles and Bosphorus are abrogated; in times of peace the government of the Sultan may admit the armed vessels of "friendly Powers into these waters when needed to enforce the Treaty of Paris of 1856;" the Danubian Commission is continued for ten years The new protocol expressly declares that "no single Pewer can relieve itself of the obligations of the treaty without the consent of all the signatories." It may be said in truth that the Treaty of Paris of 1856 has been, in its very essentials, obliterated by an absorption and subsequent renewal in a new treaty, which may be called the Treaty of London, in explanation and reaffirmation of the Treaty of Paris. In all this we can see that the Old World great Powers have become again, to a very considerable extent, a unit-the royalisms condescending to recognize and meet the democracy as represeated by France and French radicalism. with the "reds" abating for a season their vision of the head of Danton by presenting the placid countenance of the aristocratic Duc de Broglie to the peers of Britain and the counts of Germany and Italy. Turkey obtains the

right of guardianship of the Eastern waters, and Russia is again held to her responsibilities and treaty obligation duty in the East. It appears, indeed, as if Russia experienced a sort of "cold shoulder" just as soon as the other Powers found that France may again become the free pivot centre of Europe.

The Age of Statues and the Age of Brass

We have received a nicely printed circular inviting us to contribute our aid toward the construction of a statue representing our well known fellow citizen, William M. Tweed, State Senator, Commissioner of the Depart ment of Public Works, &c., &c. The project is endorsed by such distinguished gentlemen Now, if Mr. Tweed had departed from this

as Richard O'Gorman and other Irish patriots. o another and a better world, full of years and honors, we do not know but we might encourage the erection of some suitable monument to his memory. Mr. Tweed, however, has relieved us by modestly refusing to be thus honored—at least with his consent. Indeed, he forbids it altogether.

Nevertheless, if the worshippers of Mr. Iweed are determined to do him up in marble, iron or brass, why not go further and give all our prominent local politicians and nabobs a chance for this kind of posthumous glory, so that the statues of our living men may be found, like the old town pumps, at almost every corner? Peter B. Sweeny and Mayor Hall are pre-eminently entitled to the honor. Judge Hilton, Robert J. Dillon, Thomas C. Fields ought to be "statooed" for the work they have already accomplished, in conjunction with Mr. Sweeny, in ornamenting our public parks. Who so well deserve the grateful remembrance of their fellow citizens s these gentlemen? Central Park, City Hall Park, the Battery, Bowling Green, in fact all our public parks and places, might with propriety be adorned with their statues. The Department of Public Docks should not be forgotten.' It might be represented by a statue of General McClellan at the head of every newly constructed stone pier. The Financial Department of the city also demands a share of this honor, and a statue of Richard B. Connolly might be constructed of coin without alloy and placed in the Comptroller's office and in those corners where money lenders most do congregate. The "Palaces of Justice" should not be passed over. Judge Bedford and Recorder Hackett deserve some lasting testimonial for the vigorous manner in which the laws are vindicated. A statue of Judge Dowling might grace the rotunda of the Tombs, and similar ones be put up all over the city, or where the "dangerous elements" mestly throng. Justices Shandley and Cox could supply convenient niches. Sheriff Brennan also might be represented as a faithful and conscientious official. The Commissioners of Public Charities and Correction are entitled to remembrance for their arduous labors in behalf of charity. The head of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Mr. Bergh) is certainly a worthy subject for the sculptor's chisel or the ironmoulder's handiwork. A life-size likeness of him might be placed in every city horse car depot and upon every horse fountain in the city. The poor animals themselves would never say nay to this. Then again we might branch off and take a glance at our religious magnates. How much will Plymouth church subscribe for a statue of Henry Ward Beecher? How much will the theatrical friends of the pastor of the "Little Church Around the Corner" give for a statue of the Rev. Mr. Houghton? The friends of Theodore Tilton might get him on a "bust" as a living representative of the Golden Age. the memory of the rising generation by hanging up Greeley's old white coat on a beanpole in Printing House square. And now, to go back a little from the men of the present day, we suggest-the subject of statues being in order-the erection of a colossal but life-like memorial, thirty-six feet high, to one of the most remarkable men of bis age-a true Knickerbocker from the first-one before whose local renown that of any centenarian of the present day pales into nothingness; one whose solid Americanism would make the Joint High Commission come to terms pretty quick. We mean that old sage and silvery haired veteran of the Catskill Mountains-Rip Van Winkle This colossal statue might occupy the space on the west side of the City Hall Park, hard by the fountain wherein that forlorn female is represented as vainly endeavoring to supply with water some famishing reptiles below. The old Knickerbocker might be represented as Joe Jefferson so admirably portrays him, with this exception: the sensation of amazement at what he

shall know them." Now, some of the enthusiastic admirers of Boss Tweed may think that we are poking fun at the whole matter of a statue of him. and that it would be impossible to carry on the statue business on the scale of magnitude we have suggested. They are wrong. Do they not remember that when the Romans entered Rhodes, the capital of a not very extensive island, they found more than three thousand statues in bronze and marble? (Vasari says thirty thousand, but Pliny says three. Let them fight it out). That was called the Age of Bronze, while the present might be called the "brassy" age. What are three or thirty thousand statues in this our age? From one model any number of castings might be turned out, just as they turn out ornamental iron work for all manner of things, or as Comptroller Connelly can turn out New York city bonds for all sorts of purposes. No, gentlemen, we do not desire to be the Moses who is to smash up any golden image in these modern times. As the Queen of Babylon added to her gorgeous edifices statues of herself and of her husband Ninus, with agures in bronze representing her father-in-law, her mother-in-law and the mother of the latter, calling them, as Diodorus relates, by the names of Jupiter. Juno and Ops (they knew a thing or two about 'ops in those days), so may our city potentates and politicians glorify one another and perpetuate their own memories-

but for ourselves we desire first to see whether

beholds might be illustrated by having

him with wondering eyes and uplifted

hands point to a conspicuous legend displayed

on the other side of Broadway, to wit,

"Department of Public Works," as if he

would remind the present generation of the

scriptural declaration, "By their works ye

ries worth preserving. But Mr. Tweed declines the honor in his letter published elsewhere, and rather snubs his friend Shandley for proposing such a foolish thing as "a monument more enduring than brass!"

The Opening Spring Season.

The weather for the past few days indicates that the rigidity of winter is thawed out. It has been a long and tedious season, not perhaps so much for the severity of the cold as for the frequent changes of temperature, which proved very trying to the health of the most robust and absolutely dangerous to invalids. We are entering now upon a more genial time. The warm rains have swept the streets nearly clean of the accumulated snow and filth of the past four months. The air is balmy. The earliest spring flowers are just peeping up out of the ground, and as the earth is shaking off its winter garb, so also people are beginning to discard their winter costumes. The bright-eyed and rosy-cheeked promenaders about Union square and the upper portions of Broadway already are assuming the colors of the incipient summer. But we must not be too confident that a wicked March wind will not pay us a visit and send us back shivering to the fireside again. We live in a changeful climate. For some time past trifling intermittent fevers-not dangerous, but annoying-have been very prevalent. We may expect that they will disappear now under the influence of a more pleasant atmosphere, and that the general health of the city will improve.

The tone which the opening of spring gives to business cannot be overlooked. We need only look to the advertising columns of the HERALD for the evidence of a sudden impulse in all branches of trade. When the public take hold of forty-six columns of our space in one day to advertise their business we may be sure that there are briskness and activity around. And this is not an exceptional case. We may conclude, therefore, that we are on the eve of a pleasant and pros perous season, that the disagreeable features of winter have almost passed away with the melted snow, and that, as the sunshine grows warmer from day to day, the life of trade and commerce will be quickened. The evidences are already present in the more brilliant appearance of the streets, the lighter air and the gayer costumes of the promenaders. The maisons of fashion will soon be exhibiting their tempting charms; for the magic "opening days" are close at hand, when all the endearments of the millinery establishments will sorely try the self-denial of the women and the pockets of the men. Spring, in fact, with all its freshness and beauty, its changeful skies and its business activity, is just dawning upon us, and its promises are good.

The News from France.

Our reports from France do not contain anything of a very exciting or important nature this moraing. Paris was quiet yesterday, although a fraction of the National Guards still retained possession of a number of cannon and refused to surrender them to the authorities. We think, however, that the backbone of the opposition in Paris has been broken. It is true that the reds are still restive. They have placarded the capital with incendiary appeals to the troops not to fight the people, which is simply an invitation to them to join in the work of plunging France into anarchy. Fortunately the appeals have produced no effect whatever upon the soldiers. and as long as they remain firm France is safe.

The illness of the Emperor William has not prevented his setting out on his return to Berlin. Yesterday he arrived at Epernay, accompanied by a large and brilliant staff. At Weimar great preparations have been made to receive him. In a few days more he will be in Berlin, and will there "crown the edifice" of his unprecedented martial achievements by a triumphal entry exceeding in grandeur and enthusiasm anything known to history since St. Louis of France set out on his fatal crusade to the Holy Land.

The Return of Marshal MacMahon to France.

We learn from the cable despatches which we publish in another column that Marshal MacMahon has been released from his parole and is now on his way back to Paris. No truer imperialist exists to-day, we believe, than the Dake of Magenta. He served Napoleon faithfully in the past, bravely won and honorably were the honors bestowed upon him by his imperial master, and on that disastrous day at Sedan, when the French army was well nigh annihilated and he himself was borne from the field severely wounded, no complaints escaped from his lips against the ill-fated Emperor. All through his captivity he has preserved a strict silence regarding the changes which have taken place in France; still there is not the slightest indication to foreshadow any other opinion than that the brave old hero will prove true to Napoleon in his misfortunes. If he has given any signs at all of his opinions they are to be found in his official report of the campaign, from Chalons to Sedan, in which he confirms the statements made by the Emperor in his pamphlet, and entirely exculpates him from all responsibility in the terrible disasters which overtook the French arms. Regarding MacMahon, then, as an imperialist, it is likely enough that, on his return to France, followed, as it will be, by the return of all the subordinate officers and soldiers of the Imperial armies, a movement will be inaugurated favorable to a restoration of the empire, though it may be with slender chances of

ADVERTISEMENTS AND NEWS .- On Monday of last week we published a map of the trade rontes of the future, taken in connection with the proposed canal across the Isthmus of Darien. Some of our contemporaries, we understand, published the same as an advertisement and received pay for it. Of course that is their business and none of ours. We are always careful to make a discrimination between news and advertisements, and to put the matter for which we receive pay under the advertisement heads. We think it mistaken policy on the part of any newspaper to publish what is really an advertisement in the news columns, and it is a practice that the HERALD is never guilty of.

ALL IN A "Fogo"-The election in New they will a few years hence have any memo- Hampshire to-day.

The Joint 188th Commission The first week of the deliberations of this august body has passed, and there does not appear to have been much work done. There was a full and satisfactory amount of social discussion, dining and visiting, and otherwise silver-lining the cloud of more earnest deliberation before them; but as to any progress in the direction of a settlement of the fishery question or the Alabama claims, there is as yet no visible evidence. Our people must be patient, however. The popular ultimatums of both sides have been faithfully laid before the tribunal by the NEW YORK HERALD and the London Times, and the members understand what is wanted of them. But there is a good deal of underbrush to be cleared awaymusty documents, bundles of red-taped declsions and opinions—masses of dusty books and commentaries and ages of diplomatic history and precedents to be got rid of before the British mind can conscientiously concentrate its attention on the actual and final decision that the Commission is to render. When patience and perseverance have swept away these impediments to business American energy will have full sway, and the business: of the Commission will swing along as rapidly and as harmoniously as a well matched team on the Bloomingdale road.

Some apprehensions are still expressed in Washington, we see, relative to the result of the Commission's deliberations. It is thought that nothing will be offered on the part of England better than the Johnson-Clarender treaty, which left the subject of England's liability for the damages by the Alabama and the liability of the United States for damages done to English citizens during our war each to arbitration. It is not likely, however, that the English Commissioners will do anything so useless and so dangerous as to offer us for ratification a treaty which our Senate, supported by the strongly-expressed sentiment of the people, rejected two years ago by a vote of all but one member. No; we think the High Commission has its duty and its obligations plainly marked out, and that there will be no further hitch either in the deliberations or in the final agreement.

The Tammany Regency-History Repeate ing Itself.

It is an old and trite saying that history repeats itself. Every dynastic change and revolution subversive of established customs, laws or forms of government but makes way. not for something new in government or laws, but for the reappearance of something old; which had fallen into disuse or temporary disfavor. These changes are simply the repreductions, in altered forms, no doubt, of events that, having had their influence on the history of the past, are still required to shape and mould the history of the present. Solomon said there was nothing new under the sun. This may be accepted, independent of the wisdom of its author, as a truism as far as history is concerned; for there is hardly an event of great public national promines transpiring in the present for which a parallel may not be found in the history of the past. From the discovery of this our island of Man-

hattan by that famous and renowned navigator, Hendrik Hudson, in this very month of March, 1610, through all the throes of early colonization to the administration of the government by that redoubtable and valiant Governor Peter Stuyvesant, the worthy burghers of Manhattan maintained intact, or whenever threatened or imperilled, disputed lustily for the recognition by the governing powers of their political rights and franchises. Those old Mynheers were, in fact, a most disputato maintain them, and were thus the source of a "peck of trouble" to the easy-going, hugeeating, profuse-drinking, inveterate-smoking governors of the period up to the time of the aforesaid Peter, nicknamed the Headstrong. This Peter carried things with a high hand, or it might be said that his wooden leg was the high hand with which he "ruled the roast" during his long administration of the government. Like the Tammany ring of the present day, presided over by another Peter (history repeating itself), the Knickerbocker Governor believed in the policy of relieving the people of all the cares of government. To this end he centred in himself the sole power and all the responsibilities appertaining thereto, admitting none to his counsel or his confidence save and evcept his trusty trumpeter and herald, Antony

The Peter of our day-the head and front of the ring which runs our city government, running a muck too at that-imitates the old Knickerbocker's policy as closely as possible. The ring has full and unchecked control of the public purse, and so long as a liberal and satisfied people supply the funds to replenish it whenever exhausted, the task of governing is made easy as well as profitable. There is no party in the State to molest the Regency or to make it afraid. The elements that go to the formation of parties and by their agitation of questions touching the public weal maintain the body politic in a healthy condition are held in restraint-in abject subjection, in fact-by the all-powerful ring, the self-constituted dispensers of all place and patronage under the city government. The ring is the government. It is said that corporations have no souls, but we have a municipal corporation without body or soul. The Boards of Aldermen and Assistant Aldermen are bereft of even the semblance of the power intended to be conferred upon them by the charter. Perhaps there is no cause of regret in this, knowing the stuff they are made of in the first instance, and also from the fact that they are the pliant toolsthe mere puppets of the ring-at all times and for all purposes.

From the time of Peter the Headstrong dates the rise of the old Knickerbocker families, which long held paramount and elevating sway in the bigher circles of Gotham life, and exercised a benign and civilizing influence through all the strata of society in their day. Among these were the Stuyvesants, the Beekmans, the Van Cortlandts, the Livingstones, the De Witt Clintons, the Van Rensselaers, the Van Zandts, the Van Hornes and the Schemerhorns, the Suydams and the Van Dams. The representatives of these former legislators and leaders in the councils of the government of the city and State have been elbowed and thrust aside from the path of politics and statecraft, and their places usurped by the fol-